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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

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| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 1 | Application Number | 10/568,354 |
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| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 1 | Filing Date | January 12, 2007 |
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| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 1 | First Named Inventor | Udo Heselhaus |
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| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 1 | Art Unit | 3612 |
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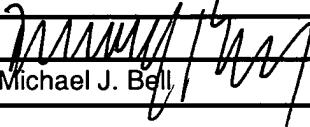
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| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 1 | Examiner Name | Lyjak, Lori Lynn |
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| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 07130.0006.PCUS00 |
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ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): PTO/SB/08a with 2 attached ref. and 1 postcard |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Remarks</div> | | |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | | |
|--------------|---|----------|--------|
| Firm Name | Howrey, LLP Customer Number 22930 | | |
| Signature |  | | |
| Printed name | Michael J. Bell | | |
| Date | | Reg. No. | 39,604 |

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Udo HESELHAUS

Appl. No. 10/568,354

Filed: January 12, 2007

For: Convertible

Confirmation No. 2703

Art Unit: 3612

Examiner: Lyjak, Lori Lynn

Atty. Docket: 07130.0006.PCUS00

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO/SB/08a are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO/SB/08a based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited

by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed;

- a. Within three months of the U.S. filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);
- b. Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application;
- c. Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits;
- d. Before the mailing of a first Office Action after filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.115.

No statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required.

or;

2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period specified in paragraph 1(a)-1(d) above, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, or action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and

- a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), or
- b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), or

✓ c. The \$180.00 fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), and any additional fees that may be due, therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 referencing docket number 07130.0006.PCUS00.

□ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee. The Commission is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to *Deposit Account No. 08-3038*, referencing _____, and

□ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), or

□ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

□ 4. Relevance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the present specification.

□ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a corresponding International Patent Application. An English language version of the International Search Report (ISR) is attached for the Examiner's information.

✓ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:

- **DE10159390:** This reference relates to an opening hard-top roof for a cabriolet automobile having at least two roof sections. A rear roof section

may be displaced relative to the automobile body between a closed position and a stowed position via a cinematic mechanism. Two main levers may be attached to the body at one end and coupled together via a coupling rod. One main lever may be pivoted to the rear roof section, and the other main lever may be coupled to the rear roof section via an adjustable coupling element.

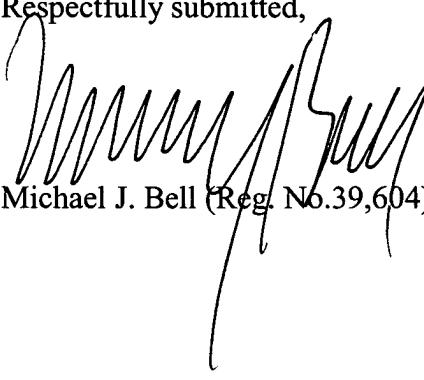
- **EP1074415:** This reference relates to a convertible vehicle having a soft-top. The soft-top vehicle may be provided with several moving units so as to place a reduced load on the individual bearings and coupling rods of the separate moving units. A single drive may be used for moving all the moving units.

✓ 7. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application Nos. 10/541,314, filed June 12, 2006; 10/547,373, filed November 6, 2006; and 10/573,690, filed April 3, 2007 which are directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of these U.S. Patent Applications is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during examination.

✓ 8. Copies of U.S. patents and published applications are not attached since the application was filed after June 30, 2003. US PTO OG Notices: August 5, 2003.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO/SB/08a, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 referencing docket number 07130.0006.PCUS00.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Bell (Reg. No.39,604)

Date: 11/9/08

HOWREY, LLP
2941 Fairview Park Drive, Box 7
Falls Church, VA 22042
(202) 783-0800